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Amendments to the specification pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121(b):

1. Please replace the section of the application beginning on page 1, immediately following the title of the invention, with the following replacement section:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is also related to U.S. Pat. App. United States Patent Application Serial No. [[_____]] 10/811,639 titled "Tools and Methods for Field-Installable Fusion Spliced Fiber Optic Connectors" filed on even date herewith March 29, 2004, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.